

Egyptian delegation visits U.S.

WASHINGTON, March 2 (R). — Egyptian Deputy Premier Abdel Moneim Qasim arrived here yesterday for his first visit to the United States...

JORDAN TIMES

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Moscow fire reportedly kills 42

MOSCOW, March 2 (AFP). — A total of 42 persons were killed and 90 injured in last Friday's fire at the huge Rossiya Hotel here...

Jordan to get \$131 m

Finance presents \$2.5 b foreign military aid package to Congress, with \$1b for Israel

WASHINGTON, March 2 (R). — Secretary of State Cyrus Vance presented Congress today a \$2.538 billion overseas military aid programme...



EURO-COMMUNIST SUMMIT -- Leader of Spain's Communist Party Santiago Carrillo (spectacles, left) welcomes his Italian counterpart Enrico Berlinguer to the summit meeting...

Euro-communist summit in Madrid opens with government's approval

MADRID, March 2 (R). — Western Europe's three leading communist parties began a two-day summit here today in a major show of support for the Spanish party's campaign for legality...

Arab, African foreign ministers lay plans for Third World front

CAIRO, March 2 (R). — Foreign ministers of more than 60 African and Arab countries were gathered here today to prepare for an Afro-Arab summit on Monday...

Allon rebuffs opposition moves to call off Rabin's U.S. trip

JERUSALEM, March 2 (R). — Israel's minority government today refused to call off a visit to the United States by premier Yitzhak Rabin...

Smith runs into a revolt within his party over land tenure reform bill

SALISBURY, March 2 (R). — Prime Minister Ian Smith today appeared headed for a defeat over land reforms giving a better deal to Rhodesia's blacks...

Callaghan to discuss new Rhodesia move with Carter

LONDON, March 2 (AFP). — British Prime Minister James Callaghan will discuss the possibility of a new initiative on Rhodesia with President Jimmy Carter...

Two major Eritrean liberation movements prepare to unite

ADDIS ABABA. They are currently completing preparations for their unification. The Eritreans say they control almost all of the province...

U.S., British, Israeli mercenaries about to invade Uganda, says Amin

ROBI, March 2 (R). — Ugandan President Idi Amin said yesterday he had sent a letter to neighboring Kenya saying 2,600 American, British and Israeli mercenaries were crossing that country to invade Uganda...

Djibouti independence expected by end of June

PARIS, March 2 (R). — The people of the Afars and Issas, France's last African territory, will vote in an independence referendum on April 24...

Another missionary slain in Rhodesia

SALISBURY, March 2 (AFP). — A 58-year-old Spanish-born Roman Catholic priest, Father Jose Manuel Rubio Diaz, has been found battered to death near his Bangala Mission station...

Fateh official calls for Jordan, PLO accord now

KUWAIT, March 2 (R). — A Palestinian commando leader, in an interview published here today, called for a normalisation of relations between Jordan and the PLO.

OPEC to finance U.N. common commodity fund

VIENNA, March 2 (R). — OPEC governments pledged financial support last night for a new international fund to help keep prices steady for Third World producers of raw materials.

JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily
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Difficult questions

As we have had another confirmation this week of the Zionist hand in the murder of U.N. mediator Count Folke Bernadotte in Jerusalem in 1948, we remain convinced that the full crimes and deceptions of Israel will be exposed over time. The story of the murder of Count Bernadotte by the Stern Gang is only one of many, and it is part of a greater and more disgraceful web that included such other Jewish groups as the Irgun and the Haganah. The fact that these groups included leaders such as Yigal Alon, Menachem Begin and Moshe Dayan is conveniently forgotten by the world today.

If these are difficult thoughts, one wonders: Why does Israel want the world to forget the crimes of Zionism when it will not let the world forget the crimes committed against the Jews by others? These are difficult questions indeed, but they must be answered if any of us are to pass on the torch of humanity to our children with a flame that is cleaner and brighter than that which was passed on to us.

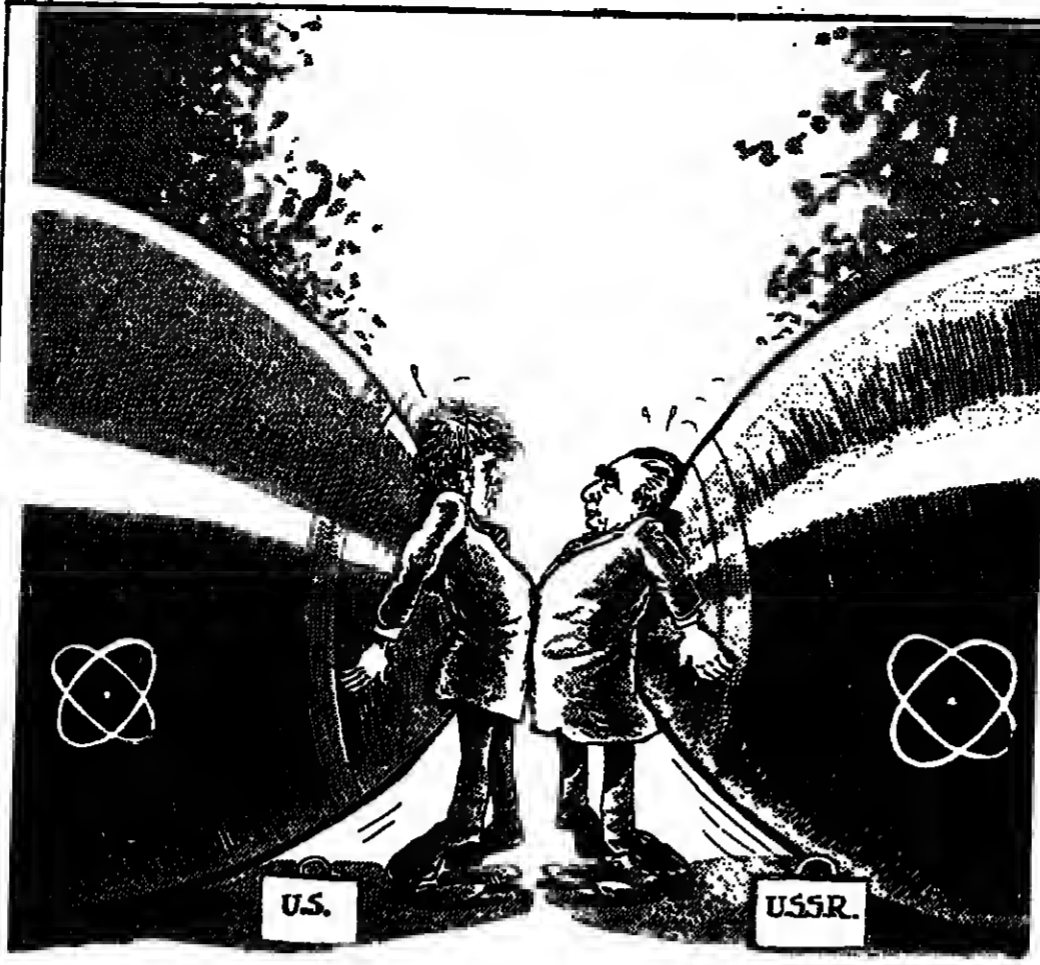
Is it acceptable to murder U.N. mediators and say this is done to speed up "independence" for Israel? If Count Bernadotte was seen by the Jews as an "obstacle", is murder an accepted way to sweep away obstacles? If this is accepted in London and New York and Hollywood as part of the price that humanity must pay for the "independence" of a Jewish state called Israel, what guarantees has humanity received from the Jews that such transgressions will not be repeated and intensified in the future? If it was acceptable for Jewish groups to murder for their independence in 1948, how can the world expect the same Jewish killers of 1948 to stop their killings a quarter of a century later? If they could murder in the name of achieving independence then, what is to stop them from murdering to safeguard independence today?

Why is it accepted that Israelis can murder Palestinians in Paris or Beirut, but that nobody can retaliate against Israel? Is the blood of a Jew more valuable than the blood of an Arab? Or is this the price that the world pays to forget the horrors of the past?

These are not easy questions at all. But they must be answered. The mind and hand that pulled the trigger on Count Bernadotte are still with us. The psyche of the Stern Gang is not history. It is the state of Israel, the seeker of concussion bombs, the builder of Jewish colonies in all of Palestine, who will be murdered next for being an "obstacle" in the way of Jewish settlements and independence in the West Bank?

Who will tell the killers of '48 that their killing must stop? Where are the statesmen of the world who can summon forth the courage to tell the Israelis that their blood is not more valuable than the blood of any other human being?

Or does the world remain silent in the face of murder, because the full price of past atrocities has not yet been paid?



"Now as to curbing the expansion of nuclear weapons... we have to start somewhere."

Superpowers look forward to resume SALT talks

By Gwynne Dyer

The Russians will probably be even less happy about it than the U.S. government, but it looks likely that there will be a new treaty limiting nuclear arms this year after all.

Controlling the superpowers' nuclear arms is a thankless treadmill of a task. No sooner was the first Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT I) signed by America and Russia in 1972, freezing the numbers of missiles, than multiple warheads came along to sabotage the agreement. At the end of 1974 Ford and Brezhnev made a tentative agreement to control the multiple warheads, and within a year the Cruise missile appeared to complicate the scene.

We may be sure that if Cruise is incorporated into some new agreement, other new weapons systems will immediately crop up to overthrow the calculations. Technology consistently outflanks all efforts to create a stable balance of deterrent power.

All that can be done, perhaps, is to fight a delaying action, trying to bring each new weapon

into an "agreement" once its implications have become clear. But even that is worth doing, and the matter has become urgent. The main SALT I treaty limiting total missile numbers expires this October. If SALT II is not signed by then the pressure in the United States to produce a new generation of missiles could become irresistible.

That is why the idea on both sides now seems to be to turn SALT II into another interim, holding agreement (just like SALT I), in order to stop the rot in at least some areas while they get on with negotiations for SALT III (and IV, and V). On Jan. 18, Mr. Brezhnev said something very like that in a speech at Tula in the Soviet Union.

On Feb. 1, President Carter saw the Soviet ambassador in Washington, and offered a series of alternative package deals to the Russians. One was that they simply ignore the new Cruise (and the Soviet Backfire bomber), and sign SALT II more or less on the basis tentatively agreed at Vladivostok in 1974. That merely imposed a limit of 2400 delivery vehicles -- long-range mis-

siles and bombers -- on each side, of which only 1320 could have more than one warhead.

Exactly a year ago President Ford made the same proposal, only to have the Russians reject it. But it is at least possible that Mr. Carter has already had a more favourable response from the Russians than Ford got.

On Feb. 8, in his first televised press conference, he stated flatly: "I'd be willing to conclude a quick agreement, if the Russians think it advisable, and omit the Backfire bomber and the Cruise missile from the negotiations at this stage; and then in the SALT III talks, if necessary, put these two items back in."

This is not charity; the U.S. is giving nothing away. The really significant new weapon is the Cruise missile. The U.S. dragged the Backfire bomber, a weapon of only marginal strategic significance, into the debate mainly in order to create a bargaining counter. If both these weapons remain outside the SALT II limits, it is the U.S. that stands to benefit.

Why should Carter think the Russians will now agree to such a deal? One reason, clear-

Third Circle Phantasmic By Omar Ja

Food for thought...

I have become a little bit discouraged by the lack of response to my weekly suggestions about how to bring peace to the Holy Land. But the task of the peace-maker is never easy, and I shall not give up without putting forth several more ideas for peace. This week, I turn to the very complex dilemmas that loom on the horizon, and which I think must be considered early if we are to have any chance of a Middle East peace. I refer, of course, to the Geneva conference. Everybody has been so busy trying to get all the different parties to the conflict to the Geneva talks that nobody has had the time to look ahead and consider the major problem that will certainly arise: the shape of the table to be used for the negotiations.

Now this may seem to be an inconsequential matter, but believe me, these Arabs and Israelis are hard bargainers, and they will not hesitate to argue over the smallest detail. So as a service to humanity, I have pondered the matter heavily, as I ponder all matters to do with peace and war in the Holy Land, and I have come up with a suggestion that I believe is wise and workable.

Keeping in mind that we are dealing with a very complex dispute, and keeping in mind that old solutions will not always work in this matter, I think we have to assume that the traditional square or round negotiating table will not be appropriate. Therefore I suggest that what we need are novel new approaches to the matter of the negotiating table, and I think the only really feasible solution is to have a table in the shape of a falafel sandwich.

Not only do I suggest that the table be shaped like a falafel sandwich, but I also suggest that it actually be made of the actual ingredients of a falafel sandwich, perhaps taking it easy on the taheni sauce to conform with Swiss decorum and sanitation laws.

I know the suggestion sounds a little bit unusual, but consider its advantages. First, there is the tremendous psychological advantage of mutual familiarity. Falafel sandwiches are made and eaten by both the Arabs and the Israelis, and thus for negotiators from both sides to gather around a falafel sandwich would immediately bring a degree of psychological ease and a feeling of being at home that is crucial for such complex negotiations.

If a deadlock were reached, for example, the Israelis would not have to fly home for consultations. They could just nibble away at their end of the falafel table, close their eyes, and immediately feel as if they were on the beaches of Tel Aviv pondering the concessions that the Arabs are asking of them.

For the Arabs, the falafel table would consist of absolutely crucial important issues that would satisfy the dual dictates of gigantic egos and appetites. If forced to negotiate upon one of the pillars of Arab society -- the falafel party -- would provide them with immediate gratification as the single most important source of food that will be required to sustain them through the long and difficult Geneva negotiations.

For both the Arabs and the Israelis, the feeling of familiarity would certainly ease them to make concessions. They would have just a hard wooden table to grab but rather the soft, warm, greasy taste of fresh falafel sandwich. A few Pepsi could be scattered around the room to cut the back-home atmosphere.

Second, the sheer symbolism of the sandwich table would be a big boost to the negotiating process. I can think of nothing that brings Arabs and Israelis closer together, heart, spirit and stomach than a fresh sandwich on a cool summer evening, a sensation that transcends political disputes something that every Israeli and every Arab can identify with. It is a base that we can upon. It is an element that can bring the Arabs and the Israelis together faster than at else I can think of.

We may not be able to sign a peace across the Jordan River or the Sinal Golan Heights, but we can certainly sign hot sauce across a falafel sandwich in G. If the Arabs and the Israelis can initiate dialogue across a falafel sandwich, then to me we can set in motion a process of negotiation that could finally bring peace to the Middle East.

The dilemma in Arab-Israeli negot has always been: Where do we start? Geneva talks keep getting stuck on the central obstacle of the PLO, and the refusal to have anything to do with it. It seems to me, however, that we have tried to focus on those few things that Arabs and Israelis share in common, such as fresh falafel sandwiches.

If we can bring ourselves to nibble at the building blocks of peace, we may have found the starting point of what has always evaded us. Then we could on to more complex matters, such as cabbage leaves, and the chain reaction could set off would be momentous. We'd find that the Arabs and the Israelis have more in common than they have to argue. Procedural hurdles be damned! Pass it sauce!

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Two of the Jordanian dailies commented Wednesday on how the Islamic world and in particular the Arab countries should celebrate the anniversary of the birth of the Prophet Mohammad and how they should stick to his teachings in order to achieve their unity and prosperity.

AL DUSTOUR under the heading "How to celebrate the anniversary?" says that the Arabs commemorating that occasion are presently numbered by the millions, living in strategic places East West, some of whom possess great riches. In spite of all this wealth and strategic position, one of their most valuable pieces of land remains under occupation by the enemy, long known for its hostility towards Islam and famous for its plots against Islam's followers.

Will the Arabs, the paper wonders, while pondering on this occasion the merits of the prophet and his teachings, honestly try to assess themselves and what they have done to apply his principles? Or will they just be content to deliver the traditional speeches and enjoy the festivities organised for the occasion?

We wish that they compare their present position to that at the time of the life of the Prophet, to think about the causes of their disunity and those of the many tragedies they have experienced.

They should always be reminded that this situation in

which they presently find themselves is of their doing and not what has been planned for them by the Prophet.

They should be convinced that the celebration of the birth of the Prophet, before anything else, should be kept by adhering completely to his teachings and by following his example.

We need to celebrate such an occasion, the paper says, by serious work, to possess the courage to recognise our past errors and decide to return to the right path set by Islam.

AL SHA'B says that the anniversary of the birth of the Prophet Mohammad comes to remind us of our failure, for the eleventh consecutive year, to liberate the Al Aqsa Mosque, the place from which the Prophet ascended to Heaven. This occasion once again, the paper says, provides us with the proof of our shortcomings and neglect in liberating the land which was blessed by God.

The meaning and purpose of the anniversary is thus outlined, the paper adds. We should profit from that occasion to call for Jihad Holy War to liberate the Al Aqsa and try to put more zest in our efforts for that purpose at the Arab and Islamic level.

We should realise that the anniversary and the festivities will have no value if the Al Aqsa and the lands surrounding it remain under occupation. This eleventh occasion comes back to sound the call for Jihad (Holy War) to liberate the holy places of Islam. Will anybody hear that call, the paper concludes.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

Channel 3 & 6:	9:20 Quiz programme
6:00 Quran	10:15 Play
6:05 Children's programme	Channel 6:
6:30 English by television	7:30 News in Hebrew
7:00 Young Dr. Kildare	7:45 Varieties
8:00 News in Arabic	8:30 A Swede in Paris
Channel 3:	9:10 'The quest
7:30 Science and life	10:00 News in English
8:30 Arabic series	10:15 Crown Court

RADIO JORDAN

7:00 Morning melodies	15:00 Concert hour
7:30 News	16:00 Old favourites
7:40 News reports	16:30 Easy listening
8:00 Sign off	17:00 Play of the week
12:00 Pop session	17:30 Pop session
13:00 News summary	18:00 News summary
13:05 Pop session	18:05 Pop session
14:00 News	18:30 Science report
14:10 Radio magazine	19:00 News
14:30 Music made easy	19:10 News report
14:45 15 weekly	19:30 Sign off

EMERGENCIES

Doctors:	pharmacies in Amman and Irbid. The Jordan Times apologises for this omission.
Amman:	
Nayef Khadra (44477)	Zarga:
Ramzi Mazzawi (25809)	Ahila
Irbid:	Haditha
Amin Abu Ida	
Zarga:	
Mahmoud Jamal	Taxis:
Pharmacies:	Talal (25021)
Amman:	Rainbow (37245)
No details were available on	Ahli (31177)
	Al Fursan Youth City (3223)

AMMAN AIRPORT

Arrivals:	20:20 Riyadh (SDI)
7:55 Cairo (EA)	
8:30 Bangkok, Bahrain	
8:40 Dhahran, Kuwait	
8:50 Baghdad	
10:30 Beirut	8:00 Beirut
11:25 Rawalpindi (BA)	8:45 Beirut (MEA)
16:00 Kuwait (KAC)	8:45 Cairo (EA)
16:20 Agaba	10:00 Athens, Madrid
17:00 Cairo	10:30 Cairo
17:10 London	12:25 London (BA)
17:40 Copenhagen, Vienna	12:30 Rome, Paris
18:55 Amsterdam, Athens	14:30 Agaba
(KLM)	16:45 Kuwait (KAC)
19:40 Beirut (MEA)	21:30 Riyadh, Dhahran (SDI)

BBC RADIO

GMT	13:00 News; 24 hours
05:00 News; 24 hours	13:30 Paperbacks
05:30 Sarah Ward	13:45 Radio Theatre
05:45 The World Today	14:30 Matthew on Music
06:00 News; Press Review	15:00 Radio Newsreel
06:30 An Anthology of British Choirs	15:15 Outlook
07:00 News; 24 hours	16:00 News; Commentary
07:30 Sarah Ward	16:15 Come to the Opera
07:45 Alone I did it	16:45 The World Today
08:00 News	17:00 News
08:15 International Soccer Special	17:09 People and Politics
08:30 Farming World	17:40 Book Choice
09:00 News; UK Press Review	17:45 Sports Round-up
09:15 The World Today	18:00 News; Radio Newsreel
09:30 Financial News	18:00 Take It or Leave It
09:45 News Now	18:42 Stock Market
10:15 Wales 77	18:45 Beat is Black
10:30 Just a minute	20:00 World News; 24 hours
11:00 News	20:30 A Jolly Good Show
11:15 Money, Money, Money	21:15 People and Politics
11:30 Twenty-five years	21:30 The King's Singers
Queen	21:45 Paperbacks
12:00 Radio Newsreel	22:25 News; The World Today
12:15 Top Twenty	22:35 Financial News
12:45 Sports Round-up	22:45 The Melody Makers
	23:00 Sports Round-up
	23:00 News; Commentary

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT	18:00 Special English. Feature: Science 1 News, News Sumr
03:00 The Breakfast Show	18:30 Now Music USA
to 03:00, 04:00, 05:00 and 18:30	19:00 News Roundup, Re
06:00 GMT: News, 19:00	Actualities, Opinion
Reports, and Topical	VOA Magazine, A
News Summary, 03:30, 19:30	canas, Science, Cul
04:30 and 05:30 GMT:	Letters.
An informal presenta-	Special English. Ne
tion of popular music	Music USA (Jazz).
with feature reports and 20:15	VOA World Repc
interviews, answers to 21:00	News ... newsmag
listeners' questions, Sci-	ences ... newsmag
ence Digest.	... background fea
17:00 News Roundup, Reports, 21:30	... media comment
Actualities, Opinion, Ana-	news analyses.
lyses, News Summary	
17:30 Dateline	

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance (government)	Tel. 75111
Civil defence rescue	" 24381-4
Fire headquarters	" 23000
First aid, fire, police	" 19
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	" 36391-2
Municipal water service (emergency)	" 37111-3
Police headquarters	" 39141
Najdah, roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help	" 21111, 37

Cultural Centres

American Centre (USIS)	Tel. 41390
British Council	" 36172-3
French Cultural Centre	" 37000
Goethe Institute	" 41000
Soviet Cultural Centre	" 44000
Amman Municipal Library	" 36111

مركز الصحافة

The German-Jordanian Society: A fighter for the Arab cause

Mr. Kurt Uhlein, the founder of the German-Jordanian Society, recently paid a visit to Amman. During his stay, he was interviewed by the Jordan Times on the activities of the 1,000-member society, that had fought against anti-Arab feelings before gaining a measure of respectability. It now includes in its membership ministers, dukes and the youngest son of the late Austrian emperor.

By Lisa Gress
Special to the Jordan Times

It had never before encountered such hospitality and friendship as I did on my first visit to Jordan in 1960. Overwhelmed by my vivid memories and an expression of gratitude to His Majesty King Hussein I, the Jordanian people, I joined in 1963 the German-Jordanian Society in Hanover.



Mr. Kurt Uhlein: Strong links with Jordanians.

Ever since its inception, the society has been very active in quelling the German people at various aspects of Jordan.

Mr. Uhlein, who is also Honorary Consul of Jordan in Hanover, has given many lectures out of Jordan. In addition, the society has distributed thousands of gift copies of books on Jordan, such as "Uneasy Lies the Head" and "Justice For Jordanians", which have been translated into German. In this connection, Mr. Uhlein said at the most recent book about Jordan is "King Hussein's Kingdom", written by the German author Dr. Marius Haas.

A news periodical, the Deutsch-Jordanische Nachrichten, is issued quarterly by the German-Jordanian Society. It publishes many articles about Jordan and tries to clarify the realities of the Middle East crisis, and in particular the Palestinian problem; it also highlights Jordanian development projects and the progress Jordan has made in recent years. Furthermore, Mr. Uhlein stressed that the society organizes social gatherings in Hanover for Germans and Jordanian students, doctors and workers. It also assists Jordanians with their residence permits

and helps them find accommodation and jobs. The society invites Jordanians that are on training courses in Germany, as well as Jordanian tourists, to visit its premises in Hanover.

To bring to life one of the most exciting and historic sites in Jordan dating back to 300 B.C., the society held an exhibition of "Nabatean Art from Petra" in Hanover's Kestner Museum last November. The inaugural ceremony attracted several hundred visitors to the carvings of the rose-red city of Petra.

This February the exhibition moved from Hanover to Frankfurt's Liebig Museum, and from Frankfurt the exhibition will go to Bonn and then the Finnish capital of Helsinki.

The exhibition consists of photographs, as well as jugs and plates made available by the Jordanian Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities. The Louvre Museum in Paris contributed two busts of Nabatean people carved in stone, and several individuals contributed Nabatean antiquities from their private collections. The society issued booklets on Petra and the Nabatean kingdom. Mr. Uhlein explained.

The German-Jordanian Society has grown to include 1,000 members, most of them are Germans. Among them are ministers, dukes and the youngest son of the late Austrian emperor, Dr. Otto von Habsburg.

In Germany alone, there are about 400 friendship societies linking Germany with other countries. The German-Jordanian Society is in the top ten. On the initiative of the German-Jordanian Society, a convention was recently organized in Hanover for all Arab-Jordanian societies in Germany with the aim of bringing them closer together and strengthening German-Arab relations.

Many obstacles had to be overcome before the society reached its present status. "In 1967 -- after the Arab-Israeli war -- it was often difficult to tell the German people that the Arabs are our friends". It was then practically impossible to publish a pro-Arab article in the German newspapers", Mr. Uhlein stated.

Mr. Uhlein, who visited Jordan after the 1967 war, saw with his own eyes the women and children, civilians and soldiers, who were the victims of Israeli napalm bombs. He recalls that when he returned to Germany, he exerted great pressure on German newspapers to write articles in defence of the stricken people, but it was only

after he produced the napalm photographs, that he succeeded in convincing the press to speak on behalf of the victims.

In 1967, the German-Jordanian Society played an active role in helping the Palestinian refugees. It sent blankets, tents and medicine, and later a mobile unit for dentistry and thousands of special bags for school children.

A major event in the German-Jordanian Society was the visit of His Majesty King Hussein to West Germany in 1968. His Majesty addressed society members and the guests invited to Dusseldorf and Bonn.

The society tries to encourage tourism to Jordan, and each year organizes tours for German tourists.

Mr. Uhlein stressed that Hanover is known world-wide for its annual international fair, which has proved to be a catalyst in the promotion of tra-

de relations between Jordan and West Germany.

The German-Jordanian Society, having its headquarters in Hanover, has played a big role in providing leading German firms with up-to-date information on economic development in Jordan. It has also acted as a fruitful contact for German and Jordanian firms.

Mr. Uhlein praised the existing relations between Jordan and West Germany. He emphasized that the popularity of Jordan and its king among the German public will continually pave the way for the German-Jordanian Society to enlarge its various activities. He also stated that he was proud of being a spokesman for the Arab cause in general, and for Jordan in particular.

In appreciation of his activities and his devotion to Jordan, His Majesty King Hussein has bestowed upon him two high-ranking decorations.



Prince Hassan, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs (second from left) awaits his plane to Cairo Wednesday for the Afro-Asian foreign ministers' conference opening Thursday. (JNA photo).

At celebration on Prophet's birthday Prince Hassan: Moslems should draw inspiration from Mohammad

AMMAN (JNA). — His Highness Prince Hassan, the Viceroy, Wednesday afternoon presided over a celebration held

by the Ministry of Waqf, Islamic and Holy Places Affairs at Al Hussein Youth City on the occasion of the Prophet Mohammad's birthday.

Opening the ceremony, Prince Hassan recalled the age of ignorance and tyranny in which the world lived before the appearance of Islam, which brought not only a new faith but also established new codes of human behaviour, rules for solving man's problems and a civilisation based on the lofty principles of justice and righteousness.

Prince Hassan said the birth of the Prophet should mark a dividing point in human history: The one before and the one after. "It is the dividing line between the road of darkness and the road of light," Prince Hassan added.

He went on to say that Islam's mission of reformation was not meant for the Arabs and their lands only, but embraced all other parts of the known world at that time.

His Highness called upon all Arabs and Moslems to draw

moral inspiration from this auspicious anniversary," so they may close ranks, win over themselves and their inclinations and realise that this is the only way to gain victory over their enemies.

Taking the stand after the vicerey, the Minister of Waqf, Islamic and Holy Places Affairs Kamel Al Sharif reviewed the history of Islam. He stressed that it was the identification with Islam, which protected the Arab nation against trials and tribulations in its history, and which enabled it to firmly withstand the crusader and Tartar invasions.

He pointed out that the backwardness suffered by the Moslem nations in many ways needs an injection of Islamic thinking for Islam calls for the acquisition of knowledge and learning, as much as hard work, production, brotherliness and mutual consultation between governor and governed.

The President of the University of Jordan, Dr. Ishaq Al Farhan, highlighted some aspects of the Prophet's greatness and their reflection "on our needs in the present time." He said the Prophet was great in his character and behaviour, great in reformation, education, leadership, justice and administration -- qualities which ought to be the guideline for all peoples of the world.

Concluding the celebration, the mufti of the Jordanian Armed Forces congratulated the royal family and all Moslems on this great anniversary.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

Consultants chosen to open up Saudi desert to agriculture

AMMAN (JT). — A large arid area of Saudi Arabia could be transformed into farmland if investigations to be carried out by a consortium of British consultants are a success.

Under a £23 million development planning study announced in London a week ago, two companies have been commissioned by the Saudi Ministry of Agriculture to evaluate the water resources and agricultural potential of the 350,000 sq. kms. eastern region of the kingdom. The job will take 3.5 years to complete.

The study will be carried out

by more than 100 experts under the control of Water and Ground Water Development Consultants (International) Ltd., a company formed jointly by Hunting Technical Services Ltd. and consulting engineers Sir M. MacDonald and Partners. The U.K. consultants were chosen by the Saudi government in competition with French, Italian, U.S. and Australian consortia.

WATER SEARCH

With the aid of satellite photographs of the area, specialists

such as agriculturalists, agronomists, soil scientists, geologists and geophysicists will probe the thick belt of limestone that lies under the region. This is said to contain substantial quantities of water which could be the key to the development of parched areas where rainfall is almost non-existent and where temperatures can frequently exceed 40 degrees C.

The aim will be to identify both the quantity and quality of water that can be extracted from this underground source, which is known as the Um Al Radhuma aquifer.

As well as probing beneath the surface, experts will also study the make-up of soils in the area and their ability to produce crops if they can be irrigated. Once it is clear where agricultural development can produce the best results, the consultants will plan two pilot farms, each of 100 hectares. These farms will be used to find out the most suitable methods of agricultural production, covering a wide range of options from peasant farming to modern commercial enterprises using the latest mechanical equipment and plant.

SAUDI CONTRACTS

The U.K. firms were responsible for a previous investigation into water resources needed to supply extra water for the Saudi capital of Riyadh. The study, completed in 1975, led to the MacDonald company being contracted to design the necessary extraction plant, treatment works and pipelines.

The two firms also carried out the study and design of the Al Afaj irrigation project and have been involved in a number of other development studies in the kingdom.

Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

U.K. sterling	568.0	574.0
U.S. dollar	332.0	334.0
German mark	139.4	139.8
French franc	66.9	67.2
Swiss franc	130.5	130.9
Italian lira (for every 100)	37.7	37.9
Saudi riyal	94.1	94.6
Lebanese pound	110.5	111.5
Syrian pound	82.2	82.4
Iraqi dinar	940.0	950.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1,151.0	1,157.0
Egyptian pound	465.0	475.0
Libyan dinar	790.0	805.0
UAE dirham	88.0	86.0

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Free business publicity

The Jordan Times is interested in hearing about any and all new developments in the business and industry sectors in Jordan, particularly new projects, contracts, agreements or joint ventures with local, regional or international parties.

We will be highlighting such items of news here on page 3, and would like to be kept informed of such developments in both the private and public sectors, so that we may follow them up with in-depth reports and photo coverage.

Such information for our business and industry coverage can be sent by mail to Jordan Times, P.O. Box 6710, Amman -- if there is enough lead time -- or it can be brought in person to the Jordan Times office on University Road or phoned in any time after 12:00 noon to 67171-2-3-4.

NATIONAL NOTES

* AMMAN. — Her Highness Princess Basma Tuesday visited the girls' hall of residence at the University of Jordan and looked into services provided there.

* AMMAN. — Commander-in-Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces Gen. Zeid Ibn Shaker Tuesday visited the Royal 12th Infantry Mechanised Division. He visited some of the division's units and looked over their training programmes.

What's Going On

A lecture on "International Library Cooperation" by Mr. Stephen Parker, of Library Development Consultants. 6:30 p.m., at the British Council, Jabal Amman.

Telecomms. official to attend postal conference

AMMAN (JNA). — The Director of Planning at the Ministry of Communications, Saleh Al Tal, Friday leaves for Japan to participate in a seminar on mobile post offices and the mechanisation of postal equipment.

A total of 15 African and Asian states will take part in the 15-day seminar organised by Japan for high-ranking postal officials. It will start on March 7.

Electric power memoranda exchanged

AMMAN (JNA). — Memoranda for cooperation between Jordan and West Germany in the electrical field were exchanged Tuesday at the Jordan Electricity Authority.

Under the memoranda, the German government will provide Jordan with a loan worth 500,000 marks to meet the expenses of appointing an electrical engineer for three years to supervise the installation of a 33 kv electrical distribution network.

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Scientists relate sunspot activity to eleven-year drought cycle



Possible long drought in U.S. West is forecast from the sun -- This is a telescopic view of the sun as seen in light given off by hydrogen.

BOSTON, (CSM). — After a hard winter, the United States west of the Mississippi River should be alert to another potential climatic hazard -- severe drought -- meteorologists warn.

California's current water shortage and the Rocky Mountain-Great Plains snow deficit may be symptomatic of a larger trend -- return of the dry part of a roughly 20-year, sunspot-related drought cycle.

Environmental Data Service senior climatologist J. Murray Mitchell Jr. says that, in his judgment, there now is persuasive evidence for this cycle, which has been postulated by some experts for years. "I'm not predicting drought will occur this summer," he says, "I am warning that this analysis suggests that right now, we should be extra cautious."

This reinforces warnings that some other climatologists have made to the effect that the United States could not expect the relatively favourable farming weather of the 1960s to continue indefinitely.

Climatologist Stephen Schneider of the National Centre for Atmospheric Research, for example, has urged what he calls a "Genesis strategy" of storing food in good years to offset lower production when weather turns bad, a strategy modeled after that of the Biblical Joseph.

A summer drought could be serious for the North American granary. While California's lack of water has captured headlines, a potential serious water shortage has also been building up for the Great Plains.

Lee Larson of the National Weather Service's Rural Forecast Centre in Kansas City says that the Great Plains went into the winter with a substantial water deficit. Soils in many areas were exceptionally dry then. Lack of normal snowfall, both over many plains areas and in the Rocky Mountain water catchment, means heavy spring rains are badly needed.

Furthermore, Mr. Larson says, general water-supply reservoirs now are only 50 to 70 per cent full. "Heavy late spring snows are needed in the Rockies, and that gets less likely as we move on," he explains, adding, "It's a bad situation."

Given this situation, and given what he believes to be good reason to think there is a sunspot-phased drought cycle that could hit about now, Dr. Mitchell feels it is only wise to warn Americans to be prepared for it.

To many, this may not seem to be a very startling development. But for a meteorologist to admit to such judgment concerning sunspots is like an astronomer saying there is scientific validity to the claims of astrologers. The whole subject of solar influences on weather (except to supply the atmosphere's basic energy) has been debated emotionally on the fringes of weather science for over a century.

Most meteorologists consider

it a mixture of vague correlations, wishful thinking, and outright hokum. And sunspot correlations are considered the worst of the lot.

The sticking point is lack of cause-effect relationships. In a review article a year and a half ago in Nature, science historian A. J. Meadows of the University of Leicester (England) observed:

"After a century of accumulating correlations on the activity of sunspots and atmospheric phenomena around the Earth, we still have no clear idea what they mean."

He added, "However many numbers are involved, the old doubts are unlikely to be resolved so long as all that can be offered is statistical regularities."

Now, Dr. Mitchell says, those

regularities do have to be taken seriously as far as sunspot cycles and North American drought west of the Mississippi River are concerned. "Don't ask me to explain it," he says, "I can't. But the phase-locking between drought and the sunspot cycle is strong."

This is the 22-year spot cycle. The spots themselves wax and wane with roughly an 11-year period. But they reverse their magnetism in a 22-year cycle. Dr. Mitchell says there is no correlation between the drought data and the 11-year cycle. He also finds no correlation between sunspots and the wet periods between drought epochs.

Several earth scientists have for some time been pointing out what seemed to be a correlation between American

drought and this 22-year cycle. Walter Orr Roberts and Roger H. Olsen of the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research have been foremost in this. Matching up droughts with 22-year sunspot minima, they have associated the midedrought years of 1892, 1912, 1934 (dust bowl), and 1953 with the spot minima of 1889, 1912, 1933, and 1954.

Dr. Mitchell says he was skeptical as most other meteorologists about this match up until he saw drought data going back to 1700 which Charles W. Stockton of the University of Arizona produced by analyzing three rings.

The drought cycle stands out sharply, he says. Just to "make sure we weren't doing something shifty with the data," he explains, it was subjected

to independent statistical analysis.

In statistical terms, the cycle is judged to be real at 95 percent level of significance. Its correlation with the sunspot cycle is judged meaningful at a significance level of 8 percent. That means the statisticians believe there is respectively, only 5 percent probability and 1 percent probability that they are mistaken in judging the cycle and its correlation to be real.

That still doesn't explain what causes what or how the correlation works. It does even imply that the correlation holds in other parts of the world. But as a means of predicting drought-prone epochs in the United States west of the Mississippi River, it probably does give forecasters a new tool

Gas pipeline promises to heat Canadian feelings

CALGARY, (CSM). — Canadians have always had an uneasy relationship with pipelines. So the current controversy over petroleum industry proposals to build an arctic natural-gas pipeline is no surprise to the proponents of the multi-billion-dollar venture.

Antagonistic Canadians will admit that these steel transmission lines are vital to their economy. Yet, virtually every time there has been an attempt to put a portion of the network into place (by now it is one of the most extensive networks in the world), the proposal has attracted furious opposition from every level of Canadian society.

Canadian feelings, whipped up by the recurrent pipeline issues, became intense enough to topple the federal government during bitter debates in the Ottawa parliament in the mid-1950s.

Politicians argued over the awarding of the exclusive right to ship Alberta gas to Ontario and to additional points of delivery in the U.S. Great Lakes region. The privilege was sought with equal vehemence by Canadian and American groups.

The same intense opposition has flared up, and remains unyielding, in connection with the latest industry proposals to build a huge gas transmission line from the Arctic shores to continental markets.

The main components of the current crop of pipeline proposals closely resemble several of the more contentious points of the pipeline issues tackled here during the past 20 years.

There is, once again, the element of rivalry between Canadian and U.S. sponsors.

Also, there is the renewed prospect of federal and provincial jurisdictional conflicts over who will control the potentially lucrative and strategically important north-south transmission system.

Two consortiums are involved in the Arctic pipeline enterprise. Both are awaiting a decision



from Ottawa that may allow one of the competing proposals to go ahead or, perhaps, to condemn both bids to the history books.

Canadian Arctic Gas Study, Ltd. (CAGSL) wants to build an express line that would tie in gas supplies from Prudhoe Bay and Canada's own Mackenzie River Delta into a common carrier system, simultaneously servicing Canadian and American producers and consumers of frontier gas.

The tentative price tag for the 4,000 km pipeline, using large-diameter steel pipe, is more than \$7.5 billion.

The CAGSL group includes many of the household names in the U.S. petroleum industry, along with some leading Canadian operators.

Meanwhile, some of CAGSL's former founding members and, by now, its most ardent foes, are trying for the Arctic pipeline concessions under the patriotic banner of the "Maple Leaf" project.

The original Maple Leaf objective was to move only Delta gas to Canadian markets. But lately, because of the persisting shortfalls in Delta reserves to justify an all-Canadian gas pipeline in the Mackenzie Valley, the Maple Leaf

project has been modified to provide for the passage of Alaska gas, too.

Including connections along the Alcan Highway to tap the gas supplies on the North Slope of Alaska, the Maple Leaf plans represent cost estimates of about \$5 billion. They envisage a somewhat less ambitious installation than CAGSL's blueprints.

The competitive spirit of the industry is heightened by the declared Canadian policy that will permit only one Arctic gas pipeline in the Mackenzie "corridor".

The main difference that sets the pipeline problems of 1977 apart from earlier proposals is the relatively new phenomenon of northern native land claims.

The Yukon and Northwest Territories, covering a total of over two million sq. kms. have been carved up during the past two years by various native organizations. These groups base their respective claims on their historical usage of the land.

The land claims by the Indian or Dene nations, Metis half-breeds, and the two groups of Eskimo will have an inevitable effect on the two pipeline proposals and related developments.

It is simply inconceivable

that either one of the rival Arctic pipeline proposals could be financed without some kind of a native land settlement being reached in the first place.

The Canadian government, although sympathetic to an eventual settlement of native land claims, is hardly in a position to resolve the land issue at the earliest opportunity.

Its own fact-finding inquiry spent almost two years to record the sentiments of the approximately 35,000 native "thawners" with respect to industrial development plans.

The exercise has turned a frightening mixture of feelings among native peoples; while certain factions supporting the pipeline, while others strive to defend their traditional uses and ways of life by any means necessary.

From a practical point of view, time is fast running out for a federal decision because the Arctic pipeline would have to be in place by 1980 to meet industry objectives in Alaska and the Mackenzie Delta region.

On the other hand, given the past Canadian experience, if Arctic pipeline will also certainly become a major issue in the next federal election due to be held sometime within the next 16 months.

Micro-pollutants present a time-bomb threat to our climate

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CSM). — When it comes to weather-changing pollution, the small stuff we've been neglecting may count after all.

Chemicals which meteorologists thought too sparsely distributed to matter may tend to warm up the climate.

Radioactive krypton, a waste gas vented by atomic reactors in amounts generally considered safe, may change the electrical conductivity of the atmosphere. This, in turn, might affect thunderstorms or other weather phenomena.

Nobody yet knows enough about the possible effects of these pollutants to cry "danger". Indeed, some earlier studies have dismissed concern for these highly diluted chemicals out of hand. But lately a few scientists have begun to have doubts about this practice.

W. C. Wang, Y. L. Yung, A. A. Lacis, T. Mo, and J. E. Hansen, working at the Goddard Space Flight Centre, Institute for Space Studies, have taken another look at pollution associated with chemical fertilizers and the burning of coal, oil, wood, and gas.

This is not pollution from carbon dioxide, which most experts do consider a danger likely to cause undesirable warming. It is pollution by traces of ammonia, methane, nitrous oxide, and some other chemicals.

In Science magazine, the researchers reported a study, admittedly simplistic, which suggests that these chemicals could act together to cause long-term warming.

Since they believe this could eventually "have substantial climatic significance," they warn that "it is important to the abundances of these trace gases be accurately monitored to determine the actual trends of their concentrations."

The case of krypton is especially straightforward. If indeed it is changing the atmosphere's electrical properties, no one has a clear concept of what this might do to weather and climate.

Last July, William L. Boer of Niagara University showed how krypton might well change the air's conductivity, and why, that being the case, pollution by this gas should be taken more seriously.

"Chemically inert... (it) penetrates the entire atmosphere, so that its effects may be felt anywhere on the globe," explained, adding, "because its long radioactive half-life (10.76 years), any effects will persist for decades."

It would be foolish to continue to neglect this possible hazard. These trace chemicals should be monitored as closely as are the major pollutants today.

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 - 2 - The scope of work includes four levels building with offices, laboratory and industrial floor to be completed within 12 months including heating, plumbing, air conditioning, water treatment, electrical equipment, etc. (Bulk earth moving excluded).
 - 3 - An information meeting with the French consultants will be organised around the middle of March and interested contractors can attend this meeting when it is announced.
 - 4 - Contractors interested in bidding for this project may obtain the "Pre-Qualification Questionnaire" from the J.N.G.C. office, Shmeisani, Amman: Tel. 61177 during normal working hours starting March 7, 1977.
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- This submission should be received not later than 12 noon on Wednesday, March 23, 1977.
- 5 - The plans of the required work are available for inspection at the offices of J.N.G.C. Amman, Jordan.
 - 6 - J.N.G.C. will notify contractors who have been pre-qualified to bid for the work and supply them with information regarding the preparation of bids. Reasons for rejection of applicants for pre-qualification will not be given.

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BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ Q982
♥ A2
♦ 10762
♣ AKJ

WEST
♠ 107643
♥ 10973
♦ K3
♣ 102

EAST
♠ Void
♥ J654
♦ AQJ8
♣ 96543

SOUTH
♠ AKJ5
♥ KQ8
♦ 954
♣ Q87

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 3NT Pass
4 ♠ Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Ten of ♣.

The usual reaction of the average player to a bad trump break is blind panic. A far more sensible action is to consider possible distributions which will neutralize the whims of Dame Fortune.

North-South bid easily to their normal contract. North might have passed South's jump to three no trump, but since he had four-card spade support and a potential ruffing value, his decision to continue on to the spade game was eminently correct. Barring unforeseen circumstances, four spades would have yielded ten easy tricks. The king of diamonds lead would have killed any chance declarer had for his contract, but the auction steered West away from that lead, and he settled on the ten of hearts. Declarer won in dummy and a spade to the ace brought the bad news.

It seemed that there were three diamond losers and a trump, but declarer was not ready to bow the knee.

Dummy held a tenace position over West's trumps, and declarer worked out a distribution which would still

enable him to bring in his contract. All that was required was for West to hold at least two cards in both hearts and clubs.

Declarer cashed dummy's ace-king of clubs, then returned to his hand with the king of hearts. Now he led the queen of hearts. If West ruffed, declarer would over-

ruff, draw trumps and claim ten tricks by cashing his high club. When West followed suit, declarer discarded dummy's jack of

clubs. The position was essentially the same. Declarer now led his queen of clubs.

If West discarded, declarer would lose only three diamonds, so West ruffed low. But that availed him naught. Declarer simply

overruffed and now had ten tricks via four trumps and an overruff, three hearts, and the ace-king of clubs.

A little thought very neatly compensated for the 5-0 trump break.

THE PAGE FIVE FEATURE PHOTO



Wild horses bound across the expanse of imagination. (Batik print by Amman artist).

GRAFFITI

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GERMANY
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FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, MAR. 3, 1977

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GENERAL TENDENCIES: Be prepared to adopt new policies that can operate to your advantage. A day to show your magnetism and gain your true objects. New beginnings can work to your advantage.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Engage in worthwhile activities during spare time but don't spend any money foolishly. Take no chances with your reputation.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Be alert to new opportunities that may arise at this time. Study your surroundings and make plans for improvement.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Discuss future plans with associates. Avoid one who does not understand you. Obtain the data you need from the right sources.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Make those changes that will bring you greater financial benefits in the days ahead. Follow the advice of an expert.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Come to a better understanding with associates. Take no chances with one who has an eye on your assets.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Make plans that will give you greater abundance in the future. Change your attitude with mate and get excellent results.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A new attitude can see you gaining some aim that had been difficult in the past. Make sure routine work is done efficiently.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Engage in civic work now and add to present prestige. Show more devotion to family. Show others you have wisdom.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Study new outlets through which you can make the future much brighter for yourself. Relax at home tonight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Make sure you keep promises made to others. Follow your hunches which are accurate today and tonight.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You have to change your attitude with associates if you are to get the right results at this time. Use care in motion tonight.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Be more cooperative with co-workers and gain excellent results. A gift for your mate can pave the way to better understanding.

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

WOSOP
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

TRAYP
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

UNNOIB
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

MAYLIF
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

ANSWER: HIS

Yesterday's Jumbles: GUILÉ ERASE HARDLY BURIAL
Answer: When it's this, it's not likely to be missed by the audience!—AUDIBLE

TONIGHT'S T.V. FEATURES

THE QUEST:
PORTRAIT OF A GUNFIGHTER

The Bödin brothers try to help a young man whose parents have been murdered by outlaws.

* * *

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ACROSS

- Troul
- Purposetul
- Web-footed bird
- Tennysman
- Young hare
- Cry
- Colter's warning
- Leucothea
- Neptune's spear
- Hebrew lyre
- Those holding office
- Adamant
- Strongboxes
- Edgai Altan
- Dulseed
- Victors
- Tavern
- Son of Zeus
- Use a shuttle
- Succinct
- Obsidian source
- Biblical tribesman
- Overt
- Morbid
- breathing sounds
- Declination
- Oller a delense
- Glowing
- Nails
- Turn inside out
- Tennis score
- Reserve
- Cherry color
- Pupport
- Rent
- Maishes
- Reduce
- Solar disk
- Hers
- Canvas sheet
- Recorded event
- Swordsmen
- Scrap
- Pen
- Russian stockade
- 27 Across' bud
- Remain ham
- Indigo
- Eggs
- Tennis stroke

DOWN

- Tool box
- Declination
- Oller a delense
- Glowing
- Nails
- Turn inside out
- Tennis score
- Reserve
- Cherry color
- Pupport
- Rent
- Maishes
- Reduce
- Solar disk
- Hers
- Canvas sheet
- Recorded event
- Swordsmen
- Scrap
- Pen
- Russian stockade
- 27 Across' bud
- Remain ham
- Indigo
- Eggs
- Tennis stroke

AP Newsfeatures 3-3

PEANUTS

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY IS AFTER ME JUST BECAUSE I BIT A TREE!

IT WAS A KITE-EATING TREE! I ONLY BIT IT TO GET EVEN...

FIFTY-CENTS SAYS THEY'LL THROW YOU IN THE SLAMMER!

THE FLINTSTONES

WHERE DID THE ACCIDENT HAPPEN, GROVER?

(GROAN) RIGHT HERE...

LIKE THEY SAY, MOST ACCIDENTS HAPPEN RIGHT AROUND THE HOUSE!

YEAH (MOAN)!

POOR GROVER—HE SHOULD HAVE KNOWN HE COULDN'T GET THROUGH THEIR DOOR WEARING HIS NEW ELTON JOHN GLASSES

MUTI AND JEFF

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET IN MY SHOW? WHAT DO YOU DO?

I IMITATE BIRDS! CHEEP!

GO WAY! I DON'T WANT ANY BIRD IMITATORS! BEAT IT!!

O.K., I'M SORRY!

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Pre-election violence brings Pakistani troops to Karachi on eve of Premier Bhutto's visit

KARACHI, March 2. (Agency) — Troops were brought into Karachi today in case of renewed political violence during an election campaign visit by Pakistan's Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Mr. Bhutto will arrive here tomorrow to lead a big procession of his Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) supporters through the city and then address a public meeting.

Owen to visit Egypt, Israel

LONDON, March 2 (R). — Britain's new Foreign Secretary Dr. David Owen, said yesterday that he hoped to visit Egypt and Israel in the next few months to talk to their leaders and assess the Middle East situation at first hand.

He told parliament that the role of the United States in getting Middle East peace negotiations under way would be decisive, but Europe could and should not stand aside.

Western Europe's interests in the Middle East were numerous, the nations of the area had become Europe's major trading partners, he added.

Observers anticipate there could be fresh clashes between PPP workers and the opposition Pakistan National Alliance (PNA) in the city, which has turned against the government in the last few weeks of the campaign for general elections to be held on March 7.

No serious clashes were reported there after two days of violence in which two people were killed and 80 injured.

Israel, Egypt

Dr. Owen's visits to Egypt and Israel had yet to be fixed through diplomatic channels.

On Cyprus, Dr. Owen said it was too early to say where substantial progress towards a settlement would be made in the intercommunal talks between the Greek-Cypriot majority and the Turkish-Cypriot minority representatives starting in Vienna on March 31.

He said Britain would remain in close touch with her allies and partners in the European Community to decide what initiative, if any, they could take to negotiate a further settlement.

The troops arrived here in the early hours of the morning from an army camp some 24 kms. outside the city and set up quarters in the National Stadium.

Informed sources said the troops had been brought in as a precautionary measure.

Meanwhile, an opposition leader has demanded that the president dismiss Premier Bhutto's government to ensure fair general elections.

Mr. Sherbaz Mazari, head of National Democratic Party, a component of the nine-party opposition alliance, said at a press conference that the four provincial chief ministers should also be removed before the polls.

He said that the high court or any other agency should take over the country and the army called in so that elections will be conducted impartially.

Mr. Mazari alleged violence by the government against the opposition and said that some 200 of his political workers had been arrested in Karachi where he is contesting the election.

Jewish Stern Gang admits murdering Count Bernadotte

TEL AVIV, March 2 (R). — The Jewish underground organisation, the Stern Gang, murdered United Nations mediator Count Folke Bernadotte in Jerusalem in 1948, one of the group's commanders said in a newspaper interview here.

Mr. Jehoshua Zeltzer was quoted in Monday's edition of Yedioth Aharonoth as saying Count Bernadotte was regarded as "pro-Arab and an obstacle to the independence of Israel."

He said the murder was carried out by a group of four men dressed in British army uniforms. Acting on information from a foreign journalist they set up a roadblock where Count Bernadotte's three-car convoy was to pass.

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After stopping the convoy, one of the four Stern Gang men walked up to the count's car and fired a sub-machine gun at him. He died within minutes and the four Stern Gang men escaped, Mr. Zeltzer said.

The late Mr. David Ben Gurion, Israel's first prime minister, ordered the Israeli secret service to seek out the culprits, but no one was put on trial.

Carter tells Soviet dissident he won't change stand on human rights

WASHINGTON, March 2 (R). — President Carter held a 10-minute meeting yesterday with exiled Soviet dissident Vladimir Bukovsky, and told him that the U.S. commitment to human rights was strong and permanent.

Welcoming Mr. Bukovsky with a "hi, I'm Jimmy Carter," the president said he would not be timid about his statements or positions on human rights anywhere in the world.

Bukovsky last night urged the United States to cut off credits to the Soviet Union and end technological cooperation, because, as Lenin said, "the Capitalists will sell us the rope on which we shall hang them later."

He told several hundred persons who came to see him at George Washington University hours after his White House interview "my presence here tonight is an example of how sensitive the Soviet Union is to the pressures of world public opinion."

Asked why there was not greater resistance to the Soviet regime at home, Mr. Bukovsky replied "there are no Gallup polls in the Soviet Union," but

he added "the number of people imprisoned is so great that they are more convincing than the results of any poll."

Meanwhile, the Soviet news agency Tass today criticised the United States for supporting freedom in words but not in deed and accused it of hypocrisy in the matter of human rights.

In a commentary by Mr. Yuri Jorjilov headlined "Human

rights -- fact and fabrication the agency noted that all a of rights existed in the states of the United States.

"However what sort of equality can there be between, for example, a banker or an industrial magnate with a seat in the senate and one of the 6 million American unemployed, or a Russian Indian dumped in a gulag and deprived in ality of elementary human rights?" it asked.

Rhodesian nationalist Nkomo visits Moscow

MOSCOW, March 2 (R). — Rhodesian black nationalist leader Joshua Nkomo arrived here yesterday for talks with Soviet officials, Tass news agency reported.

But Mr. Nkomo, leader of the Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU), refused to tell reporters, who contacted him by phone, whether he planned to meet any of the Kremlin leaders or what the nature of his talks would be.

Observers believed Mr. Nkomo could be in Moscow to brief the Kremlin's African experts on African nationalist movements before President Nikolai Podgorny tours Zambia, Tanzania and Mozambique later this month, observers said.

Diplomatic sources here said President Podgorny was expected to meet representatives of African nationalist organisations in Lusaka between March 19 and 23.

Disclosures of defecting Soviet pilot will cause reappraisal of NATO's defence, magazine says

BONN, March 2 (R). — Stern news magazine said today NATO would make a complete reappraisal of its defence policies following disclosures by Mr. Viktor Belenko, the Soviet pilot who defected flying a Mig 25 jet to Japan last September.

Stern said one of his more startling disclosures was that the Russians maintained dummy military bases that fooled U.S. spy satellites.

The news magazine said its report was based on U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) accounts of the flier's interrogation.

He had led the U.S. to detect more than 130 dummy bases, mostly in Siberia or near the Chinese frontier, said Stern.

NATO's Gen. Haig says Europe must contribute more to West's defence

WASHINGTON, March 2 (R). — Gen. Alexander Haig, NATO's Military Commander, said yesterday that America's European allies have not contributed enough to their own defence.

But he cautioned the U.S. Congress against making heavy-handed threats on the issue.

Gen. Haig told the Senate Armed Services Committee that European contributions to NATO had been rising in recent years while the U.S. contribution had declined.

But he added that "I am not satisfied with European contributions -- they have not been enough."

On the other hand, he said, the Allies had not been "flagrantly remiss."

He also said the U.S. for years had been preoccupied with Asia and had drawn forces out of Europe.

The solution to NATO problems, in the face of a big buildup by the Warsaw Pact, would come through closer consultation and cooperation and not through threats from this side of the Atlantic, the NATO commander said.

Sen. John Stennis, the Mississippi Democrat who presides as chairman over the Armed Services Committee said:

"It is necessary, I think critical, that the Allies contribute their fair share of the defence of what is, after all, their own homeland."

Sen. Stennis said NATO nations outspent Warsaw Pact nations on defence by only \$9 billion in 1976 -- \$149 billion to \$140 billion -- even though NATO's total gross national product (GNP) almost triples that of the other side.

"So, if there is any problem in terms of military balance between NATO and the Warsaw Pact, it would appear to

spectacular escape in a MiG fighter plane to Japan last-ember and said he wanted live in the United States.

Mr. Belenko told the CIA a series of pseudo camps, airfields, some of which dummy planes which could pushed about on rollers.

"Twelve soldiers could run 'paper-airport' so convinc that it fooled highly sensitive U.S. satellites.

Mr. Belenko said the U.S. real military bases located underground and red to as "mole hills" by soldiers.

"There are installations several thousand soldiers, metres of tunnel roads, had and runways which lead to face runways," he was quoted as saying.

be more of a problem than resources," he added.

Gen. Haig said major expenditures had gone into strategic weapons and naval costs not readily visible to European allies who saw them contributing for more power than the United States.

Gen. Haig said in a pre-statement that the alliance confronted by a "relentless growth in sheer Soviet power which requires some important and alterations in NATO's conventional or non-nuclear capabilities.

He said the present emphasis was on improving conventional forces "not because view nuclear deterrents as important, but because we saw a stalwart conventional capability as the pre-requisite such deterrents, and because the deficiencies in our conventional posture are currently most grievous."

"We are not talking about massive increases in manpower and equipment," he said.

Gen. Haig said there should be some shifting of force since as many as 50 per cent of the allied battalions 50 kms. or more away from the areas where they would called upon to fight.

We also cautioned that central European region should not dominate all the attention since crises could develop on NATO's flanks, and the alliance suffered some stability because of inter problems.

The problem in the south region involved the strife between Greece and Turkey, which has been the object of arms embargo by the United States, Gen. Haig said he had that the embargo issue would be settled.

"The time has come for resolution of these problems," he said. "For one would come the earliest possible suspension of a normal military relationship with Turkey."

ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS NEWS

Carter pressures New York to pay debts

NEW YORK, March 2 (R). — President Carter has put fresh pressure on New York and on trade unions and banks to agree quickly on a plan to repay \$1 billion in debts and prevent the city from going bankrupt on March 11.

The president yesterday backed Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal's refusal to grant an immediate \$255 million loan to keep New York going

while the banks, the unions and city officials baffle over terms for repaying short-term debts.

Without an immediate infusion of money, city officials say New York will again face bankruptcy on March 11 and will not be able to pay firemen, police and rubbish collectors.

The \$255 million is the last part of a \$2.1 billion line of credit set up by the federal government at the end of 1975 to save the financially-troubled city from bankruptcy.

But Washington's price for the \$255 million is agreement on how to repay the short-term debts.

Repayment was originally postponed under a so-called debt moratorium plan recently declared illegal by the courts in a case brought by one holder, a small bank that wanted its money back now.

Talks on the repayment plan broke down at City Hall on Monday when union leaders stormed out and Mayor Abraham Beame accused the banks of

"holding a gun at the city's head."

The banks want a strong outside body to supervise city spending for years to come.

Israeli £ devalued

TEL AVIV, March 2 (R). — The Israeli pound was devalued at midnight last night by about 2 per cent, from 9.07 to 9.25 against a basket of foreign currencies.

In its announcement, the Finance Ministry said the devaluation will not affect prices of basic foodstuffs.

The last devaluation of the Israeli pound -- also by two per cent -- was announced on Jan. 16. It was devalued several times last year.

Its rate is set against a basket of currencies that includes the U.S. dollar, the West German mark and sterling.

The sort of "oversight committee" the banks want will be unveiled on Friday when they reveal their plan for repayment. The mayor has declared their refusal to move sooner is "power politics" and the unions claim the banks' demands will rob elected officials of control over the city.

President Carter said yesterday he favoured extending a special federal loan programme for the city for five or six years beyond its expiry date on June 30 next year.

Extension of the loan programme had been one of the banks' demands as the price for further help to the city.

But New York City Budget Director Donald Kummerfeldt told reporters: "We are not concerned at the moment with the extension of federal seasonal loans beyond 1978 -- that's an interesting question, but it is not today's question."

The president's promise of long-term help, but nothing for the short-term, increases pressure on the banks, unions and city to hammer out a repayment plan, which they have been arguing about for the past three months.

EEC imported 96% of its oil needs in 1976

BRUSSELS, March 2 (AFP). — The European Economic Community (EEC) imported nearly 96 per cent of its crude oil in 1976, despite doubled output from the North Sea, a study published here yesterday showed.

The European Office of Statistics said that EEC output totalled 21.3 million tons in 1976, while imports reached 506 million tons -- up 7 per cent from a year earlier.

But imports remained substantially lower than their level when prices quadrupled in 1973, or 610 million tons.

The jump in oil imports last year was greatest in Holland (15 per cent), followed by France (13 per cent), Belgium (12 per cent) and West Germany (7 per cent). In Italy imports rose 3 per cent from a year earlier, while they declined in Britain (-3 per cent) and in Ireland (-25 per cent).

Lower imports in Britain and Ireland were attributed to the increase in output from the North Sea, which rose to 12 million tons from 6.1 million in 1975. Further British output gains can be expected to come rapidly as more wells come on stream.

Gandhi defends emergency measures

NEW DELHI, Mar. 2 (AFP). — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi today began her party's election campaign in Gujarat State, on the west coast, with an attack on the opposition Janata Party.

Mrs. Gandhi, who addressed several public meetings in the state, said that the Janata Party was dominated by the rightist Jana Sangh and its militant voluntary force, Rashtriya Swayamsenik Sangh (RSS) which was bitterly opposed to the Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the nation.

The prime minister said some of the opposition parties which did not believe in the ideals of democracy, socialism and secularism, had resorted to violence in Gujarat and other parts of the country.

She said the country had to meet internal as well as external threats. The forces of instability were at work inside the country. Some countries were

not responding favourably to India due to her role in developing countries and they did not want the developing nations to be self-reliant.

Referring to the economic and social gains of the emergency, Mrs. Gandhi said that it was due to the strict action taken against the economic offenders, smugglers and other anti-social elements that the country had now record reserves of foreign exchange amounting to 9,000 million rupees (\$1,000 million). Therefore she called upon the people to vote Congress to power to continue the process of economic stability acquired during the emergency.

Meanwhile, the opposition Janata Party today demanded an impartial judicial inquiry into the circumstances under which veteran Gandhian politician Jayaprakash Narayan suffered heart and kidney diseases during his imprisonment under the emergency.

ILO opens Geneva meeting to discuss labour rights

GENEVA, March 2 (R). — The governing body of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) -- including representatives of governments, employers and workers -- began a four-day meeting here yesterday to discuss workers rights and conditions throughout the world.

The ILO budget for the next two years is also a major topic, in the light of a warning by the United States that it will quit the ILO this year unless the U.N. specialised agency stops involving itself in political issues.

The U.S. provides about 25 per cent of the ILO budget, which amounted to around \$160 million in 1976/77.

Filipino peace talks blocked

MANILA, March 2 (R). — Negotiations on a peaceful solution to the southern Philippines Moslem rebellion appeared to have reached an impasse today with President Ferdinand Marcos saying the rebels are demanding an army of their own in the proposed Moslem province.

The rebels of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) have gone back to their original position in the talks now being held in Libya by demanding their own national flag and armed forces, President Marcos told reporters.

The MNLF leaders negotiating with a government panel also want him to issue a decree bringing 13 southern provinces into the proposed autonomous region, though Moslems were in a majority in only five of them, the president said.

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WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

TUNIS, March 2 (R). — The first meeting of the non-aligned governments' council for news coordination ended yesterday with a decision to meet again next year in Havana. The council was formed in response to a decision taken by the sixth non-aligned summit in Colombo to discuss setting up a new worldwide news system.

VIENNA, March 2 (R). — Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov has received a high-level Soviet delegation visiting Sofia for a meeting of senior East bloc officials responsible for coordinating ideological affairs, the BTA news agency reported. The meeting is believed to be concerned with what the Communists see as a Western propaganda campaign over East European dissident movements, particularly the Czechoslovak "Charter 77" human rights group.

BELGRADE, March 2 (R). — The Yugoslav Assembly yesterday ratified a treaty with Italy resolving their frontier dispute over Trieste, the border town which has bedevilled bilateral relations since World War II. The treaty of Osimo, signed by the two countries' foreign ministers in November 1975, was ratified by the Italian Senate six days ago.

UNITED NATIONS, March 2 (R). — President Carter has made tentative plans to deliver a major address in the United Nations about March 22, the day after the Security Council takes up debate on the racial situation in South Africa, informed sources said today. It was possible, but unlikely, that he would preside over the council, the sources said. The United States holds the council presidency this month.

PEKING, March 2 (AFP). — Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua Monday night suggested that disgraced former Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping may soon make a come-back. Mr. Huang Hua said during a dinner at the French Embassy: "Teng Hsiao-ping did make mistakes, but he was a victim of the gang of four. He will be given an appropriate post at a convenient time."

WALL STREET REPORT

Prices drifted lower in mixed and moderate trading Wednesday on the New York stock exchange where the industrial average lost nearly three points. This decline put an end to the rally which had been taking place on Wall Street since the beginning of the week.

Investors are apparently still worried about the effects of the bad weather on first quarter earnings and the possibility of renewed inflationary pressures in the U.S.

Losers outnumbered gainers at the bell, however, by a very small 64 to 67 margin, as many groups of shares closed on a mixed tone. Gold mine issues, however, were generally strong and Dome Mines gained 3-1/8 to 51-3/4.

On the other hand, auto, chemical, computer and paper issues finished the Day on a weaker note. Sony fell 1/4 to 9-1/2 in active trading, while General Motors lost 5/8 to \$71.

At the close, the industrial average shows at 942.07, a loss of 2.66 points; Transp at 3.41, a loss of 0.34; utilities at 106.12, a gain of 0.40. 18,010,000 shares changed hands, of which 3,350,000 during the last hour.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market closed easier Wednesday but above the day's lows and at 15:00 the F.T. index was down 1.1 at 409.3. The continuing labour dispute at British Leyland prompted some selling, dealers said.

Government bonds trimmed 1/2 point losses to 3/8 after the U.K. official reserve figures for February. Equity leaders showed net falls ranging to 5p.

Gold shares were higher with the bullion price but off the top towards the close. There was some apprehension ahead of the IMF gold auction Wednesday.

Guest Keen, Tube Investment, Unilever, B.P., Shell, Fisons and Glaxo eased around 3p. Beecham ended 6p harder following press comment on the proposed American acquisition of Merck's Calgon consumer products subsidiary.

The banking sector was firmer with Midland the chief gainer adding 3p. National Westminster rose 4p. Insurances were mixed. Royal rose 6p on further reflection of its results.

Price of gold closed in London Wednesday at \$145.05/oz.

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